

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 –6 Canceled.

7. (Currently Amended) A copying machine comprising:

an optical reading unit which optically scans a surface of a recording medium, and converts an image on the surface of the recording medium into image data;

a first radio communication unit which reads image data from an IC chip embedded in the recording medium;

an image forming unit which prints an image on a surface of an image forming medium;

a control panel which allows a user to select an image to be printed on the surface of the image forming medium from one of the image on the surface of the recording medium and the image data recorded in the IC chip which is embedded in the recording medium;

a second radio communication unit which writes data on an IC chip embedded in the image forming medium and having a radio communication function;

an operational mode setting unit which sets one of the image data of the recording medium acquired by the optical reading unit and the data read from the IC chip of the recording medium by the first radio communication unit, as the data to be printed as the image on the image forming medium by the image forming unit, in accordance with the user's selection input to the control panel; and

a control unit which is configured to:

when the operational mode setting unit sets the image to be printed on the surface of the image forming medium as the image that is recorded in the IC chip of the recording medium, control the first radio communication unit to read the image from the IC chip of the recording medium, and the image forming unit to print the image read by the first radio communication unit on the image forming medium; and

when the operational mode setting unit sets the image to be printed on the surface of the image forming medium as the image that is on the surface of the recording medium, control the optical reading unit to read the image on the surface of the recording medium, and

the image forming unit to print the image read by the optical reading unit on the surface of the image forming medium;

when the operational mode setting unit sets the image data to be recorded in the IC chip of the image forming medium as the image data that is recorded in the IC chip of the recording medium, control the first radio communication unit to read the image from the IC chip of the recording medium, and the second radio communication unit to record the image that is read by the first radio communication unit in the IC chip of the image forming medium; and

when the operational mode setting unit sets the image data to be recorded in the IC chip of the image forming medium as the image data that is read from the surface of the recording medium, control the optical reading unit to read the image data on the surface of the recording medium, and the second radio communication unit to record the image data that is read by the optical reading unit in the IC chip of the image forming medium,

wherein:

the control panel allows a user to select image data to be recorded in the IC chip embedded in the image forming medium from one of the image data which is read from the surface of the recording medium and the image data recorded in the IC chip which is embedded in the recording medium;

the operational mode setting unit sets one of the image data of the recording medium acquired by the optical reading unit and the data read from the IC chip of the original by the first radio communication unit, as the data to be written on the IC chip embedded in the image forming medium by the first radio communication unit, in accordance with the user's selection input to the control panel.

Claims 8 - 12. (Canceled)

13. (Previously Presented). The copying machine according to claim 7, further comprising :

a scanner unit which includes the optical reading unit and the first radio communication unit;

a printer which includes the image forming unit; and

a system controller which includes the operational mode setting unit and the control unit, wherein

the control panel, the scanner unit, the printer, and the system controller constitute an integrally formed copying machine.

Claim 14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended). The copying machine according to claim ~~[[9]]~~ 7, further comprising:

a scanner unit which includes the optical reading unit and the first radio communication unit;

a printer which includes the image forming unit, and the second radio communication unit;

a system controller which includes the operational mode setting unit and the control unit, wherein

the control panel, the scanner unit, the printer, and the system controller constitute an integrally formed apparatus.

Claims 16 – 18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently Amended) The copying machine according to claim ~~[[9]]~~ 7, wherein the radio reader reads electronic data, which corresponds to the image data ~~inherently~~ recorded on the surface of the recording medium, from the IC chip embedded in the recording medium.

20. (Currently Amended) The copying machine according to claim 13, wherein the radio reader reads electronic data, which corresponds to the image data ~~inherently~~ recorded on the surface of the recording medium, from the IC chip embedded in the recording medium.

21. (Currently Amended) The copying machine according to claim 15, wherein the radio reader reads electronic data, which corresponds to the image data ~~inherently~~ recorded on the surface of the recording medium, from the IC chip embedded in the recording medium.

22. (Currently Amended) ~~The A copying machine according to claim 7,~~
comprising:

an optical reading unit which optically scans a surface of a recording medium, and converts an image on the surface of the recording medium into image data;

a first radio communication unit which reads image data from an IC chip embedded in the recording medium;

an image forming unit which prints an image on a surface of an image forming medium;

a control panel which allows a user to select an image to be printed on the surface of the image forming medium from one of the image on the surface of the recording medium and the image data recorded in the IC chip which is embedded in the recording medium;

an operational mode setting unit which sets one of the image data of the recording medium acquired by the optical reading unit and the data read from the IC chip of the recording medium by the first radio communication unit, as the data to be printed as the image on the image forming medium by the image forming unit, in accordance with the user's selection input to the control panel; and

a control unit which is configured to:

when the operational mode setting unit sets the image to be printed on the surface of the image forming medium as the image that is recorded in the IC chip of the recording medium, control the first radio communication unit to read the image from the IC chip of the recording medium, and the image forming unit to print the image read by the first radio communication unit on the image forming medium;

when the operational mode setting unit sets the image to be printed on the surface of the image forming medium as the image that is on the surface of the recording medium, control the optical reading unit to read the image on the surface of the recording medium, and the image forming unit to print the image read by the optical reading unit on the surface of the image forming medium;

wherein:

the control unit generates history information based on contents of processing, and

the first radio communication unit writes the history information generated by the control unit in the IC chip of the recording medium.

23. (Currently Amended) The copying machine according to claim [[9]] 7, wherein:

the control unit generates history information based on contents of processing, and the second radio communication unit writes the history information generated by the control unit in the IC chip of the image forming medium.

24. (Currently Amended) The copying machine according to claim [[9]] 7, wherein:

the first radio communication unit and the second radio communication unit constitute one communication unit.

25. (Currently Amended) The copying machine according to claim [[9]] 7, wherein:

when the operational mode setting unit sets the image to be printed on the surface of the image forming medium as the image that is on the surface of the recording medium, and the image data to be recorded in the IC chip of the image forming medium as the image that is recorded in the IC chip of the recording medium,

the control unit is configured to:

control the optical reading unit to read the image data on the surface of the recording medium, and the first radio communication unit to read the image from the IC chip of the recording medium; and

control the image forming unit to print the image data that is read by the optical reading unit on the surface of the image forming medium, and the second radio communication unit to record the image data that is read by the first radio communication unit in the IC chip of the image forming medium.

26. (Currently Amended) The copying machine according to claim [[9]] 7, wherein:

when the operational mode setting unit sets the image to be printed on the surface of the image forming medium as the image that is recorded in the IC chip of the recording

medium, and the image data to be recorded in the IC chip of the image forming medium as the image that is recorded in the IC chip of the recording medium,

the control unit is configured to:

control the first radio communication unit to read the image from the IC chip of the recording medium; and

control the image forming unit to print the image data that is read by the first radio communication unit on the surface of the image forming medium, and the second radio communication unit to record the image data that is read by the first radio communication unit in the IC chip of the image forming medium.

27. (Currently Amended) The copying machine according to claim ~~[[9]]~~ 7, wherein:

when the operational mode setting unit sets the image to be printed on the surface of the image forming medium as the image that is on the surface of the recording medium, and the image data to be recorded in the IC chip of the image forming medium as the image that is on the surface of the recording medium,

the control unit is configured to:

control the optical reading unit to read the image data that is on the surface of the recording medium; and

control the image forming unit to print the image data that is read by the optical reading unit on the surface of the image forming medium, and the second radio communication unit to record the image data that is read by the optical reading unit in the IC chip of the image forming medium.

28. (Currently Amended) A method of copying an image on a surface of a recording medium, comprising:

optically scanning, by an optically scanning unit, the surface of the recording medium, and converting an image on the surface of the recording medium into image data;

reading, by a first radio communication unit, image data from an IC chip embedded in the recording medium;

printing, by an image forming unit, an image on a surface of an image forming medium;

receiving a selection made by a user onto a control panel, the selection corresponding to an image to be printed on the surface of the image forming medium from one of the image on the surface of the recording medium and the image data recorded in the IC chip which is embedded in the recording medium;

setting one of the image data of the recording medium acquired by the optically scanning step and the data read from the IC chip of the recording medium by the first radio communication unit, as the data to be printed as the image on the image forming medium by the image forming unit, in accordance with the user's selection input to the control panel;

controlling, when the setting step sets the image to be printed on the surface of the image forming medium as the image that is recorded in the IC chip of the recording medium, the first radio communication unit to read the image from the IC chip of the recording medium, and controlling the image forming unit to print the image read by the first radio communication unit on the image forming medium; ~~and~~

controlling, when the operational mode setting unit sets the image to be printed on the surface of the image forming medium as the image that is on the surface of the recording medium, the optical reading unit to read the image on the surface of the recording medium, and controlling the image forming unit to print the image read by the optical reading unit on the surface of the image forming medium;

writing, by a second radio communication unit having a radio communication function, data on an IC chip embedded in the image forming medium, wherein:

receiving a selection made by the user onto the control panel, image data to be recorded in the IC chip embedded in the image forming medium from one of the image data which is read from the surface of the recording medium and the image data recorded in the IC chip which is embedded in the recording medium;

setting, by the operational mode setting unit, one of the image data of the recording medium acquired by the optical reading unit and the data read from the IC chip of the original by the first radio communication unit, as the data to be written on the IC chip embedded in the image forming medium by the first radio communication unit, in accordance with the user's selection input to the control panel;

controlling, when the operational mode setting unit sets the image data to be recorded in the IC chip of the image forming medium as the image data that is recorded in the IC chip of the recording medium, the first radio communication unit to read the image from the IC chip of the recording medium, and controlling the second radio communication unit to record

the image that is read by the first radio communication unit in the IC chip of the image forming medium; and

controlling, when the operational mode setting unit sets the image data to be recorded in the IC chip of the image forming medium as the image data that is read from the surface of the recording medium, the optical reading unit to read the image data on the surface of the recording medium, and controlling the second radio communication unit to record the image data that is read by the optical reading unit in the IC chip of the image forming medium.

29. (Canceled).

30. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 28, further comprising:
generating history information based on contents of processing; and
writing, by the first radio communication unit, the history information generated by the generating step in the IC chip of the recording medium.

31. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 28, further comprising:
generating history information based on contents of processing; and
writing, by the second radio communication unit, the history information generated by the control unit in the IC chip of the image forming medium.

32. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim ~~[[29]]~~ 28, wherein:
the first radio communication unit and the second radio communication unit constitute one communication unit.

33. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim ~~[[29]]~~ 28, further comprising:
setting, by the operational mode setting unit, the image to be printed on the surface of the image forming medium as the image that is on the surface of the recording medium, and the image data to be recorded in the IC chip of the image forming medium as the image that is recorded in the IC chip of the recording medium;

controlling the optical reading unit to read the image data on the surface of the recording medium, and the first radio communication unit to read the image from the IC chip of the recording medium; and

controlling the image forming unit to print the image data that is read by the optical reading unit on the surface of the image forming medium, and the second radio communication unit to record the image data that is read by the first radio communication unit in the IC chip of the image forming medium.

34. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim ~~[[29]]~~ 28, wherein:

setting, by the operational mode setting unit, the image to be printed on the surface of the image forming medium as the image that is recorded in the IC chip of the recording medium, and the image data to be recorded in the IC chip of the image forming medium as the image that is recorded in the IC chip of the recording medium;

controlling the first radio communication unit to read the image from the IC chip of the recording medium; and

controlling the image forming unit to print the image data that is read by the first radio communication unit on the surface of the image forming medium, and the second radio communication unit to record the image data that is read by the first radio communication unit in the IC chip of the image forming medium.